MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

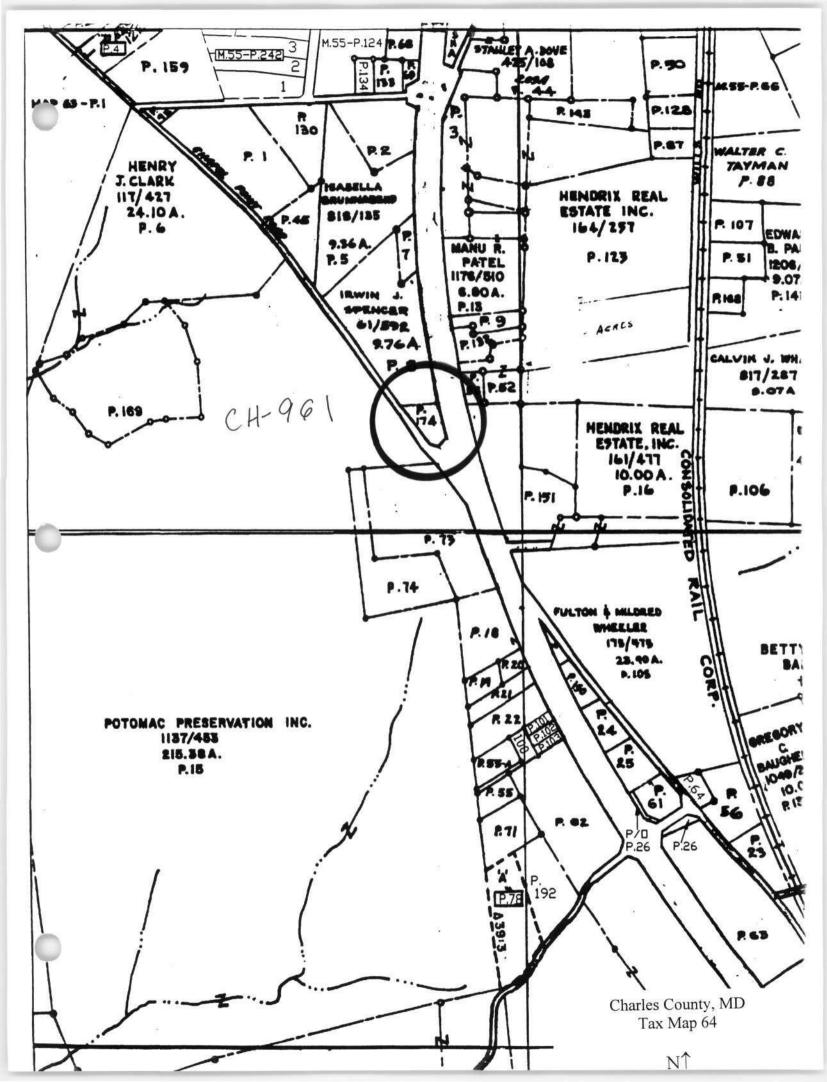
Property Name: Inventory Number: CH - 961
Address: Irving Road, Charles County - in the vicinity of Bel Alton
Owner: Beaver Pond Associates
Tax Parcel Number: 174 Tax Map Number: 64
Project MD 301 Agency State Highway Administration (SHA)
Site visit by SHA Staff: X no _ yes Name: Date:
Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended _X
CriteriaABCD
Is property located within a historic district?: X no _ yes Name of District:
Is district listed?: X no _ yes
Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project Review and Compliance Files
Description of Property and Eligibility Determination (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)
The brick house located on Irving Road at the intersection of Irving Road and Crain Highway is two stories in height and three bays wide. The dwelling is covered by a side gable roof penetrated by three, front gable roof wall dormers. The house is symmetrical except for a single chimney that rises along the south elevation. The central entrance is marked by a one-story projecting bay with a wide overhanging front gable roof. The brick is articulated with solider-coursed window headers and a single solider brick course beneath the eaves of the primary roof. The house is vacant and the site is severely overgrown.
Charles County's late 19th- and early 20th-century history is dominated by industrial and urban development. The greatest impact upon community growth came from the railroad. The completion of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad's (B&P) mainline from Bowie in Prince George's County to Pope's Creek in Charles County in 1872 prompted local entrepreneurs to establish stores and other commercial facilities near the railroad stations. The B&P Railroad also made inland farms accessible, thus, increasing their value and revitalizing the practice of agriculture in Southern Maryland. La Plata station still stands at the intersection of the rail line with Charles Street.
Prepared by EHT Traceries, Inc.
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended Criteria: _ A _ B _ C _ D Consideration _ A _ B _ C _ D _ Æ _ F _ G _ None
Que 1 10/27/99
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services / Date
Reviewer, NR Program Date

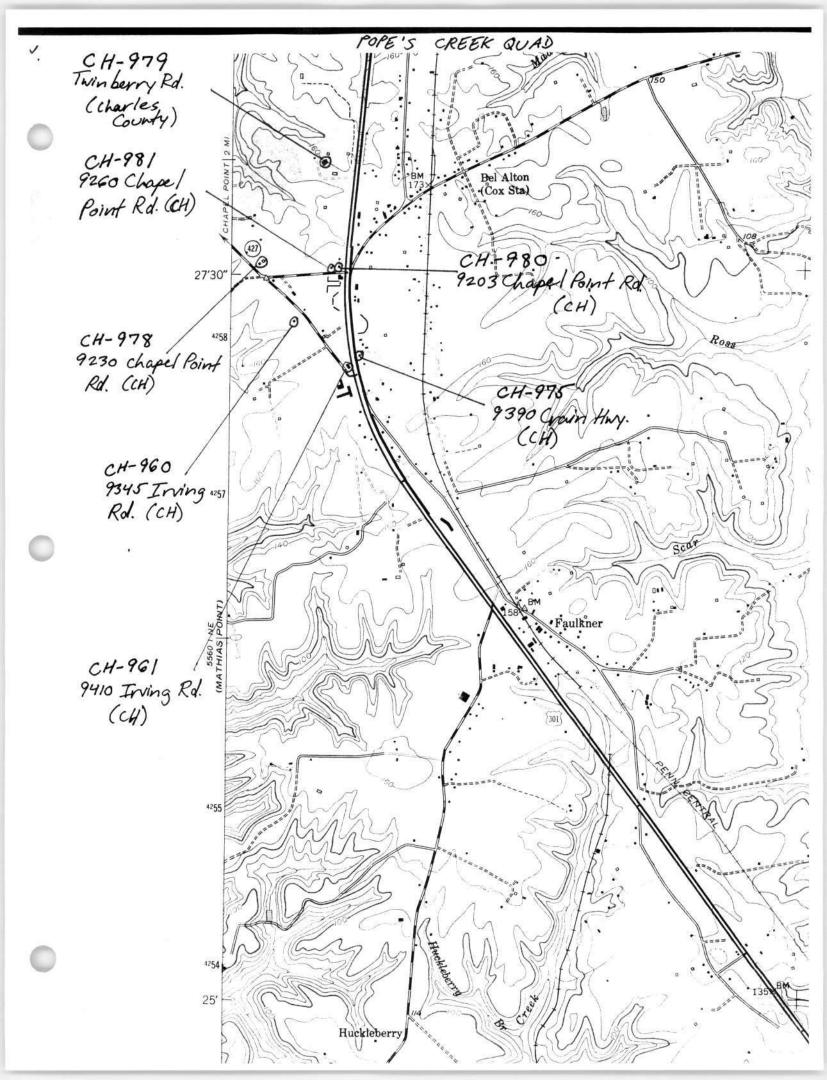
Page 2

As La Plata grew, Charles County citizens lobbied to have the county seat moved from Port Tobacco to La Plata. La Plata became the county seat of Charles County's government in 1895 and a new courthouse was erected in 1896.

Towards the end of the first quarter of the 20th century, road improvements and developments also contributed to Charles County's community evolution. In particular, the Robert Crain Highway, later expanded as part of U.S. 301, attracted new development to older communities along its corridor. Crain Highway brought commercial development on La Plata's west side and contributed to the Charles County seat's overall growth in the 1920s and 1930s.

Built circa 1880, this Colonial Revival-style house is not eligible for the National Register. While it is an earlier example of the residential development along U.S. 301, this resource lacks significance related to events, persons, or architecture. Criterion D, information potential, was not assessed for this study.







June, 1999 MDSHPO View of west elevation 1001

****** CH-961

Traceries

Irving Road and Crain Highway Charles County. Md